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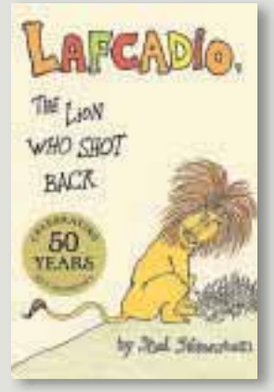

Female joggers warned of strange man

POLICE

Women say he uses 'lost' wallet as bait

Donna Maxwell
For Metro | Winnipeg

It's creepy and it's weird, but it's not a crime.

There have been several reports of a thin, scruffy white man pretending to lose his wallet in the vicinity of female joggers in Assiniboine Park and on Wellington Crescent, but Winnipeg Police say no crime has actually been committed.

"This is very odd. There's no crime associated with this," Const. Rob Carver said.

Carver said Winnipeg Police are aware of four separate incidents involving three women, with one of the women running into the man and his wallet twice. In each case, the women were out walking or jogging and came across a wallet or envelope containing a large sum of money.

Once the women picked the wallet up, a man who seemed to be in his late 30s or early 40s, with a slim build, balding with scruffy facial hair, appeared and claimed to have lost his wallet.

All women returned the wallet, and the man didn't touch or harm them. But police said they all described the encounters as odd.

Amory Steek was the first woman to find the wallet during a run along Wellington Crescent about a month ago. She ran into him a second time in Assiniboine Park.

She issued a warning to fellow female joggers on her Facebook page, and said she believes the guy is trying to lure women to attack them. She said anyone who sees the wallet shouldn't pick it up.

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Brett and Tyler, who didn't want their last names used, said they are both in favour of privatized liquor sales and cheaper alcohol prices in Manitoba. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Residents juiced up over Lib promise

ALCOHOL

MADD calls announcement 'irresponsible'

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

The Manitoba Liberals say one of their priorities is to lower the price of alcohol and said they may be in favour of privatizing booze sales.

It's no surprise, but Winnipeggers seem to approve.

"I'd be in favour of privatization because of both pricing and variety," said 64-year-old Howard Bloomfield, who was enjoying a drink at the St. Vital Boston Pizza on Wednesday.

"Right now, anywhere I shop it's the same price and the same product, but if there is competition, shops will offer more products and cheaper prices to get people to come to their stores."

Bloomfield may see benefits to the idea, but MADD Canada CEO Andrew Murie said he is "disturbed" by Wednesday's announcement.

"There's a direct correlation between lower prices and increased consumption, and it mostly impacts the people that have problems with alcohol," said Murie. "Problem drinkers will drink more because it's cheaper, so their consumption goes up, and so do the social ills they cause to themselves and to others."

Areas with government-run alcohol sales have lower instances of drinking and driving, according to Murie, who said studies back up his claims.

"This announcement is irresponsible when they know the evidence is out there, and if these ideas came to pass you would see alcohol-related deaths in the province rise.

"Alcohol should never be used as a tool for vote-getting."

Manitoba Liberal Leader Rana Bokhari claimed Wednesday that privatization would not increase the sale of alcohol to minors and said thinking otherwise is "underestimating the intelligence of Manitobans."

"She's flat-out wrong," said Murie. "Private operators are more prone to sell to minors and intoxicated people because their motive is profit."

Booze musings

Here's what some Manitobans think about the Manitoba Liberal Party's announcement that they want to reduce alcohol prices and would consider privatized booze sales.

"I think it would be good to see less of a monopoly on alcohol sales."
Neil Rivard, 29, St. Vital

"I don't think people would drink and drive more, because the laws are still the same, even if alcohol is cheaper."
Tyler, 25, St. Vital

"I don't think people would drink more if the prices were lower."
Marlen Wall, 47, Hanover

"You go to the States, and it's way cheaper. There's no reason it can't be cheaper here."
Frances Maryand, 55, St. James

CONSULTATION

Liberals say time right to examine prices

Manitoba Liberal Party Leader Rana Bokhari says her party will soon launch public consultation on ways to improve the government-dominated liquor network and will examine everything from Alberta's private system to fully public models in other provinces.

"I want to put the ideas out there; I want to have a dialogue," Bokhari said.

The Liberals hold just one of the 57 seats in the legislature and are promising to develop a detailed liquor platform before the provincial election slated for next April. Bokhari said people have complained to her that Manitoba's system — which is composed mainly of government-run stores along with some private wine stores and hotel beer vendors — is too expensive and cumbersome.

Rana Bokhari speaks to media Wednesday. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

The Manitoba Government Employees Union, among others, has come out against the idea of a privatized system. The union has said private stores would proliferate, degrade neighbourhoods and lead to a spike in crime and underage drinking. Bokhari rejected that idea.

"Public protection will always be front and centre, but there are ways to move forward and bring something into the 21st century that can balance both."

The Alberta government got out of the retail liquor game 20 years ago. It maintains a markup at the wholesale level that puts more than $700 million a year into government coffers.

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Glen Price, left, protests outside city hall in July. Price's medical marijuana shop was raided by police on Wednesday, who said that his store was not licensed by Health Canada. COLIN FAST/FOR METRO

Police raid pot shop

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Store owner charged with trafficking, possession

Winnipeg police have moved to close a controversial medical marijuana shop in the city, going so far as to remove the sign hanging from a shingle over Your Medical Cannabis Headquarters.

Wednesday, police said Glen Allan Price, 54, was arrested and charged with trafficking and possession of scheduled substances and possession of proceeds of property obtained by crime.

Earlier this year, Health Canada moved to make it legal for licensed providers to sell marijuana in everything from brownies to lip balm.

Vancouver became the first Canadian municipality to regulate medical marijuana dispensaries, requiring operators to pay a $30,000 licensing fee and locate at least 300 metres away from community centres, schools, and each other.

Price was warned his business would be closed because he was not properly licensed, but his supporters held a rally last month and he reopened the store in defiance of the police order.

He even got the support of federal Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, who has spoken out in favour of legalizing marijuana and who said during a stop in Winnipeg that storefronts such as Price's should be able to operate.

Price has said he only provides the product to people with appropriate medical documentation and said he's helped hundreds of people since opening on July 1.

However, Winnipeg police said in a news release Tuesday only dealers authorized by Health Canada are allowed to sell cannabis because there are "stringent controls to ensure public safety."

The department said unlicensed sellers are "marketing a substance whose quality and content is unverified. This may pose a significant health risk to the consumer." THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH

Seven Oaks-inspired centre opens in China

People in Rizhao, China, are about to experience wellness, Canadian style.

The Canada Wellness Institute opens tomorrow in the city in China's Shandong Province and a second will be built in Hainan.

Chinese hospital officials toured the Wellness Institute at Seven Oaks Hospital during a visit in 2011. They were impressed with the facility's dedication to lifestyle medicine approaches — which included exercise prescriptions, diet and nutrition counselling and smoking cessation — and invited Seven Oaks General Hospital president and CEO Carrie Solmundson to speak at conferences.

Eventually a deal was struck to bring the model to China.

"This is global recognition for the Wellness Institute and the credit goes to our community, which had the foresight to plan and build a facility in 1996 that is now the model for facilities in China," Solmundson said.

> **"This is global recognition for the Wellness Institute and the credit goes to our community.**
> Carrie Solmundson, Seven Oaks General CEO

"China, like Canada, is grappling with rising incidence of chronic disease that is rooted in sedentary lifestyles, poor nutrition, and other unhealthy lifestyle behaviours."

The facility in Rizhao features 80,000 square feet and is built in the former athlete reception centre for the 2008 Olympics. METRO

IN BRIEF

Odysseo adds two weeks of 'big top' entertainment

Winnipeggers have corralled the performing horses in the hit show Odysseo for two more weeks.

The producers of Odysseo, which features 65 horses and 45 riders, acrobats, dancers and musicians performing under the big top — have extended the unique show's stay in Winnipeg for two more weeks.

Described as a "two-hour waking dream," the show will begin Sept. 10 and run until Oct. 4.

The show was created by one of the co-founders of Cirque du Soleil and combines horses and humans in a performance that takes place under a travelling tent at the intersection of Sterling Lyon Parkway and Kenaston Boulevard.

Tickets for matinee and evening performances are available online at cavalia.net or by calling 1-866-999-8111. METRO

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Tiffany Ponce will perform at her album release party Aug. 8 at the Park Theatre. CONTRIBUTED

Pleased as Ponce

MUSIC

Album release party this Saturday at the Park Theatre

Donna Maxwell
For Metro | Winnipeg

Tiffany Ponce says she has a lot to be thankful for, and her new album, Gratitude, is filled with songs she wrote to express just that.

Ponce said it's important for her to have her own voice in her songs.

"Especially with this album, the lyrics are so important to me. The new album is called Gratitude, the title track is actually a dedication to my parents, kind of thanking them for all their sacrifices, all their support," Ponce said.

"The message of gratitude continues throughout the whole album, just basically being thankful throughout whatever situations are put in your way, knowing that there's a lesson and a blessing in everything that you go through."

Ponce, who will perform at her album's release party this Saturday at the Park Theatre, said she's thrilled to be putting more of her work out there and can't believe it's been more than two years since she released her first music, 2012's EP Only the Beginning.

"Time just flies by so fast. I can still remember getting ready for that one and now the second one is here," Ponce said.

She grew up in Winnipeg and after getting her Bachelor of Nursing, Ponce attended the Canadian College of Performing Arts in Victoria, B.C. for a year before returning to her hometown.

While growing up, Ponce performed in high school musicals and talent shows, but for the past seven years has been diligently working on her own material. She said that is where her true passion lies.

> **When you have the passion, you do what you need to do.**
> Tiffany Ponce

"I met the right people in the city that were doing what I truly wanted to be doing, which is my own music," Ponce said.

"Theatre's great but I always have that passion inside that I want to do my own stuff in my own style."

Her style is R&B pop and she said she's heavily influenced by late '80s and early '90s musicians like Janet Jackson, TLC and Boys II Men.

Obviously someone who doesn't like idle time, Ponce works during the day as a nurse and pursues her music dreams at night.

She's opened for Shaggy and 112 and keeps busy with shows at various spots around the city. And having a hectic schedule doesn't bother her at all.

"When you have the passion you do what you need to do," she said.

Ponce said Saturday's Park Theatre show will be up beat and a whole lotta fun.

"It's definitely energetic. I'm performing with my dancers as well as some live musicians as well," Ponce said.

"It's just gonna be a very positive experience for everyone. Like I said, this album is all about inspiring and uplifting and encouraging people to pursue their own passions and their dreams."

Doors open Saturday at 7 p.m.; show starts at 7:30 p.m.

FILM

Wanna be in a movie, Winnipeg? Dennis Quaid flick looking for 2,000 extras

Elisha Dacey
Metro | Winnipeg

If you've ever had big screen aspirations but no time to do it, here's your chance, Winnipeg.

The film A Dog's Purpose starring Dennis Quaid and Britt Robertson is shooting in Winnipeg until October and needs extras. Lots and lots of extras.

Local casting company Kari Casting says they're looking for up to 2,000 "wholesome, friendly-looking people both male and female of all ages and ethnic backgrounds" to play everything from town folk, students, families, moms, dad, kids, grandmothers and grandfathers. Performers will be paid $11.75 an hour and will need to commit to one to two days of filming.

The company will be holding an open casting call on at the Fairmont Hotel on Sunday, Aug. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and people can drop in anytime during those hours.

People can fill out an application form at the open call and should bring a recent snapshot of themselves.

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Leaders ready to ramble

ELECTION 2015

First debate of federal party leaders takes place tonight

On the eve of the first federal leaders' debate, Canada's campaign trail grew quiet as the rivals prepared for their live four-way faceoff.

Two of them, however, sent campaign proxies.

Laureen Harper stepped up to fill her husband's shoes, speaking briefly to party supporters at the campaign office for Conservative Costas Menegakis in the suburban riding of Richmond Hill.

And the NDP offered a new attack ad to fill the campaign void — a collection of doom-and-gloom business-page headlines superimposed over photos of Stephen Harper, denouncing the Tory economic record.

Indeed, the economy is expected to be front-and-centre during Thursday's debate, the first opportunity for four of the five leaders to go head-to-head on a variety of key issues.

Stephen Harper
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thomas Mulcair
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justin Trudeau
FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Elizabeth May
CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

All four participants — Harper, NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau and Green party Leader Elizabeth May — were keeping a low profile Wednesday as they took part in the time-honoured campaign ritual of "debate prep."

Mulcair has been running through debate preparation sessions with his inner circle at a Montreal hotel all week, surfacing only Tuesday to take part in a campaign event in the riding of Mount Royal.

As a former prosecutor whose question-period inquisition of Harper at the height of the Senate scandal was a highlight of his tenure as leader, Mulcair's performance will be under the microscope, observers say.

As is always the case for the prime minister, Harper will surely be the target of most of the attacks — a fact not lost on the Conservative team, said spokesman Kory Teneycke.

But the Tories will have attacks of their own — particularly on matters of experience and leadership.

Teneycke said the prime minister is "quite prepared to defend" the government's economic record, which has been under heavy fire throughout the first few days of the still-young campaign.

Trudeau will exceed expectations "if he comes on stage with his pants on," Teneycke said — a jab to which the Liberals did not respond Wednesday.

Green party Leader Elizabeth May spent Wednesday on her own in Toronto ahead of the debate. May's officials say she prefers to be left alone to study, rather than participate in mock debates like the other leaders. THE CANADIAN PRESS

See Metro Views for more on debate

WHEN, WHERE

Harper, Mulcair, Trudeau and May will all be in Toronto today to take part in the first federal election debate beginning at 8 p.m. The debate will be broadcast live on Toronto-based Citytv, CPAC and Omni 1 and Omni 2 channels, as well as on each broadcaster's website, Facebook, YouTube and on Rogers Radio news stations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

P.E.I.

Charged MADD leader resigns

The president of a Prince Edward Island chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Canada has resigned after being charged with impaired driving, the organization's CEO said Wednesday.

Andrew Murie said David Griffin, who was a police officer for 45 years, was charged with impaired driving in June and immediately resigned as volunteer president of MADD's East Prince County chapter.

Murie said formal charges were laid this week.

He said he was shocked and disappointed but also has some compassion for Griffin, who he says did great work for the organization during his three years as president.

"He was a great volunteer. He led that chapter and was engaged with the organization," said Murie in a phone interview from Oakville, Ont. "You couldn't have asked for a more model volunteer." THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEPATITIS C

Woman who fought blood transfusion case dies at 64

Diane Parsons Forsyth
THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Halifax woman who led a $1.18-billion class-action settlement for those infected with hepatitis C has died.

Lawyer Dawna Ring says Diane Forsyth died Saturday at the age of 64.

Forsyth became known nationally under her maiden name, Diane Parsons, for leading the legal fight for those infected with hepatitis C from blood transfusions.

Her family doctor, Patricia Beresford, said Forsyth, who had a bleeding disorder, became ill after getting a blood transfusion prior to dental surgery in 1989.

At the time, Canada had not instituted surrogate testing for hepatitis C.

"Early on in her illness, and until the day she died, Diane fought for adequate compensation for the medical and living costs of victims of hepatitis C exposure from blood," said Beresford.

Thousands of people in Canada were infected with HIV and hepatitis C after receiving tainted blood transfusions in the 1980s.

The federal government launched a public inquiry in 1993 to look into the scandal. Justice Horace Krever spent four years in his investigation and made 50 recommendations when he issued his report four years later.

A number of people who knew Forsyth issued statements on her importance to those who were affected by tainted blood.

Harvey T. Strosberg, who was the lead lawyer in the national class action, said Forsyth was a "visionary and a leader."

"She put her faith in the judicial system and she was not disappointed," he said. "Thousands of Canadians have benefited because she led the way."

Ring said Forsyth was giving of her time, even when she was sick and weak.

"Diane opened her private life to the public to assist in educating everyone about hepatitis C and its impact on the lives of those infected with the disease."

Alexa McDonough, former leader of the federal and Nova Scotia NDP, commented on her importance to those with hepatitis C.

"How valiantly Diane struggled and championed the cause for others battling with hepatitis C," she added.

A funeral was scheduled to be held Wednesday in Halifax. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TORONTO TRIBUTES POUR IN FOR CBC'S CHRIS HYNDMAN Visitors pay their respects to Chris Hyndman of the CBC show Steve and Chris at a public memorial at the CBC Broadcast Centre in Toronto on Wednesday. His body was found just after 11 p.m. Monday in an alley in Toronto, just below the apartment he shared with Steven Sabados, his co-host and spouse.
AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hope resting on teacher's appeal

CHILD ABUSE CASE

Singapore court rules in his favour, Indonesia next

The family of a Canadian teacher imprisoned in Indonesia on much criticized child-abuse convictions is hoping a related ruling from a court in the neighbouring country of Singapore will help his case.

Neil Bantleman is currently serving a 10-year sentence after an Indonesian court found him and a co-worker guilty of abusing children at the elite international school that employed them.

Bantleman's brother said a mother of one of the alleged victims levelled many of her accusations at the start of the case in the form of emails, text messages and other digital communication sent from Singapore.

As a result, Guy Bantleman says his brother, his co-worker and their employer filed a defamation lawsuit against the woman in Singapore.

He says the court found that accusations of sexual abuse levelled by the mother regarding her son could not be proven, found that the mother had defamed the men and the school and ordered the mother to pay a total of nearly 230,000 Singapore dollars ($219,000) in damages.

"The court said there was no evidence to support the allegations of the mother and in reality there were more communications that actually said the mother and child indicated no sort of physical abuse," Bantleman's brother said.

"We hope the courts in Indonesia have taken note of what the courts in Singapore have ruled."

Neil Bantleman's family has called the case against the 46-year-old Burlington, Ont., man a surreal one.

He and a teaching assistant were both working at the Jakarta Intercultural School when they were arrested last July following reports from parents of a six-year-old boy who claimed to have been sodomized. Police had already arrested five janitors who worked at the school on charges of child sexual assault in relation to the case.

Bantleman and the teaching assistant, Ferdinant Tjiong, were then charged with sexually abusing three children at the school, underwent a trial that saw conflicting evidence, and were eventually convicted in April.

Both men maintained their innocence throughout and frequently voiced criticisms about the fairness and transparency of the trial which saw medical reports from three different hospitals in Jakarta and Singapore show no major injuries or abnormalities in the three children at the centre of the case.

Bantleman filed an appeal, which is expected to be ruled on at the end of this month.

His family hopes the positive court ruling from Singapore might have some impact on the outcome of his Indonesian legal battle.

"Obviously we're talking about two different countries, what happens in Singapore doesn't mean it's going to follow through in Indonesia," Bantleman's brother said. "But I think it does point the courts in Indonesia in a direction that says listen, 'We've looked at this information and find a very different outcome of what happened."'

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Saskatchewan premier says equalization program too rich for hydro provinces

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall is calling for cuts to the federal government's equalization program, which provides $17 billion a year to poorer provinces. Wall says now that a federal election is underway, it's time to discuss options such as cutting the amount in half and using the rest for infrastructure funding or national tax cuts. Wall also says the equalization formula is too rich for hydro-producing provinces such as Quebec and Manitoba, because of the way it calculates the value of hydro revenues. The equalization program is aimed at helping poorer provinces offer services and tax levels similar to richer jurisdictions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crash claims couple on their way to a wedding

Authorities are investigating the deaths of two Quebec motorists who were killed in a car crash in Maine. Police say Martin Poulin and Francine Dumas, of Saint-Georges, Que., were found in their car in West Forks Plantation. They say the couple, both 58, were on their way to New Hampshire for a wedding when their car went off the road and struck a tree.

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Plane debris confirmed

FLIGHT MH370

Malaysian prime minister affirms origin of wreckage

Experts have confirmed that the debris found on Reunion Island last week was that of Malaysia Airlines flight 370 that went missing last year, Malaysia's prime minister said Wednesday.

"It is with a very heavy heart that I must tell you that an international team of experts has conclusively confirmed that the aircraft debris … is indeed MH370," Prime Minister Najib Razak told reporters.

The Boeing 777 jetliner disappeared on March 8 while on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board.

It is believed to have crashed in the Indian Ocean, but the reason remains one of aviation's biggest mysteries.

The first ever physical evidence of the aircraft was found on the French territory of Reunion Island in the Indian ocean, thousands of kilometres from the site near Australia where the plane is believed to have gone down.

"We now have physical evidence that, as I announced on 24th March last year, flight MH370 tragically ended in the southern Indian Ocean," Najib said.

Intact and encrusted with barnacles, the metal piece was sent to France for scrutiny by the French civil aviation investigation department known by its acronym BEA, and members from its Malaysian and Australian counterparts.

In a statement, Malaysia Airlines said the part of the plane's wing, known as a "flaperon," which was found on Reunion Island on July 29 had been confirmed to be of Flight 370.

"Family members of passengers and crew have already been informed and we extend our deepest sympathies to those affected," it said.

The statement said this "is indeed a major breakthrough for us in resolving the disappearance of MH370. We expect and hope that there would be more objects to be found which would be able to help resolve this mystery."

At a news conference in Paris, authorities were much more cautious than the Malaysian prime minister. Deputy French Prosecutor Serge Mackowiak didn't outright confirm that the debris belonged to flight MH370 but said there were strong indications that it was the case.

"The very strong conjectures are to be confirmed by complimentary analysis that will begin tomorrow morning," he said. "The experts are conducting their work as fast as they can in order to give complete and reliable information as quickly as possible." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak at a special news conference announcing the findings for the ill-fated flight MH370 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, early Thursday. VINCENT THIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

239

The number of people who were aboard Malaysia Airlines flight 370 when it disappeared.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **It is my hope that this confirmation … will at least bring certainty to the families and loved ones.**
> Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

Critics 'selling a fantasy': Obama

President Barack Obama assailed critics of his Iran nuclear deal Wednesday as "selling a fantasy" to the American people, warning Congress that blocking the accord would damage the nation's credibility and increase the likelihood of more war in the Middle East.

Besides challenging opponents at home, Obama cast Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as an isolated international opponent of the historic accord, saying, "I do not doubt his sincerity, but I believe he is wrong."

The agreement would require Iran to dismantle most of its nuclear program for at least a decade in exchange for billions of dollars in relief from international sanctions. But Netanyahu and some critics in the U.S. argue that it would not stop Iran from building a bomb.

The president's blunt remarks, in an hour-long address at American University, were part of an intense lobbying campaign by the White House ahead of Congress' vote next month to either approve or disapprove the international agreement. Opponents of the agreement have streamed to Capitol Hill, too, to make their case, and they have spent tens of millions of dollars on advertisements.

Obama's diplomatic overtures to Iran, a centrepiece of his foreign policy agenda, have put him at odds with Republicans and some Democrats, as well as with Netanyahu, who has campaigned vigorously against the deal.

Netanyahu and U.S. critics of the Iran deal say Obama is presenting a false choice between accepting the deal at hand and going to war to stop Iran from building a bomb.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RELIGION

Pope offers olive branch to divorced Catholics

Pope Francis' call Wednesday for a church of "open doors" that welcomes divorced Catholics prompted speculation over whether he was signalling support for easing the ban on Communion for couples who remarry without a church annulment.

The issue is at the centre of an extraordinarily public debate among cardinals from around the world who will gather this October at the Vatican for a synod, or meeting, on the family, where treatment of such couples will be a key topic.

"He wants the church to get over a psychology that if you're divorced and remarried that you're a lesser Catholic," said Phillip Thompson, executive director of the Aquinas Center of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta.

"But it doesn't address the real issue of what is the path forward for Catholics who want to enter into full communion with the church."

> **(Children) are the ones who suffer the most in these situations.**
> Pope Francis

Under Catholic teaching, unless a marriage is annulled, or declared null and void by a church tribunal, those who remarry cannot receive Communion or other sacraments because they are essentially living in sin and committing adultery.

Such annulments can take years to process — if they are granted at all — a problem that has left generations of Catholics feeling shunned by their church.

Catholics who divorce after a church marriage, but don't remarry, can receive Communion.

The pope, speaking at his weekly general audience at the Vatican, underscored Catholic teaching on divorced Catholics who remarry without an annulment, saying, "the church knows well that such a situation contradicts the Christian sacrament."

But he emphasized, "these people are not at all excommunicated."

"They always belong to the church," Francis said. The church, he said, must be one of "open doors."

Opponents see a danger to this approach and warn it will undermine church teaching overall on marriage.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BACKGROUND

U.S. government offers $5 million for 'El Chapo'

The U.S. government on Wednesday announced a $5 million reward for information leading to the recapture of one of the world's most wanted drug kingpins, Joaquin (El Chapo) Guzman of Mexico.

The Drug Enforcement Administration has set up a tip line for information about Guzman, who escaped from one of Mexico's most secure prisons last month.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Automakers struggle to keep hackers out of cars

TECHNOLOGY

Vehicles now have more software than a Boeing 787

When researchers at two West Coast universities took control of a General Motors car through cellular and Bluetooth connections in 2010, they startled the auto industry by exposing a glaring security gap.

Five years later, two friendly hackers sitting on a living room couch used a laptop computer to commandeer a Jeep from afar over the Internet, demonstrating an even scarier vulnerability.

"Cars don't seem to be any more secure than when the university guys did it," says Charlie Miller, a security expert at Twitter who, along with well-known hacker and security consultant Chris Valasek, engineered the attack on the Jeep Cherokee.

Fiat Chrysler, the maker of Jeeps, is now conducting the first recall to patch a cybersecurity problem, covering 1.4 million Jeeps. And experts and lawmakers are warning the auto industry and regulators to move faster to plug holes created by the dozens of new computers and the growing number of Internet connections in today's automobiles.

The average new car has 40 to 50 computers that run 20 million lines of software code, more than a Boeing 787, a recent KPMG study found.

After the 2010 hack, the auto industry plugged access holes and tried to isolate entertainment and driver information systems from critical functions such as steering and brakes. But in each subsequent model year, it added microchips and essentially turned cars into rolling computers. Internet access has created new vulnerabilities.

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles says it has a software fix to prevent hacking into the Jeep Cherokee through the Uconnect infotainment system. FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Cars don't seem to be any more secure**
> Charlie Miller, security expert at Twitter

Security experts say automakers should have systems that recognize rogue commands and stop them from taking control of a car. Some already do. They also say car companies must behave more like the personal computer industry, instantaneously updating software via the Internet to stay ahead in a perpetual cat-and-mouse game. Tesla and BMW already can do this, and nearly all automakers are planning for it.

Just last week, another hacker revealed that he placed a small electronic box on a car to steal information from GM's OnStar system so he could open doors and start the vehicle. GM said the hack was isolated to one car and it has closed the loopholes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRADE

Demand grows for goods

Canada's merchandise trade deficit with the rest of the world shrank in June to a surprisingly low $476 million, as exports surged in a range of sectors, including consumer goods and major resource commodities.

The trade deficit was far less than the $3.4 billion gap in May, according to Statistics Canada figures released Wednesday, and below an estimated deficit of $2.8 billion, according to Thomson Reuters.

Although the improvement was helped by a slight decline in imports, economists said the main driver for June's outperformance was strong demand for Canadian goods.

"In volumes terms, exports regained all the ground lost over the last six months," TD economist Diana Petramala wrote in a commentary.

She said Canada's trade performance is now expected to contribute positively to Canadian second-quarter growth.

But other factors including a drop in business investment is likely to "swamp the more positive trade story overall, leaving real GDP on track for a modest second consecutive quarterly decline," she added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

More film points needed

Cineplex is raising the number of Scene loyalty program points needed for free premium movie tickets starting on Nov. 4 to 1,500 for screenings in 3D or seats inside an UltraAVX or Imax theatre, and 2,000 for the adults-only VIP cinemas.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

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TSX 14,502.99 (+11.94)

OIL $45.15 US (-59¢)

GOLD $1,085.60 US (-$5.10)

NATURAL GAS: $2.798 US (-1.4¢)
DOW JONES: 17,540.47 (-10.22)

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Weaker loonie hits Indigo's bottom line

A weaker Canadian dollar left a mark on the bottom line of Indigo Books & Music Inc. in the latest quarter.

The company's chief financial officer Laura Carr disclosed in a conference call with analysts on Wednesday that the company took a $3 million hit on its bottom line during the first quarter ended June 27, a direct impact from the exchange rate with the U.S. dollar. Carr said Indigo managed to absorb the effect of the exchange rate by funnelling the costs into its book and merchandise prices and securing better agreements with its suppliers by increasing the volume of its orders.

Book and magazine prices are often a hot topic when currency exchange rates dramatically fluctuate, partly because it's one of the few retail goods that lists how much they cost in each currency on the same product.

When the value of the loonie soared to near par with the American dollar several years ago, some consumers complained they were paying excessive markups on books.

However, as the loonie sits around 76 cents U.S., retailers are facing the challenge of recouping lost profit margins.

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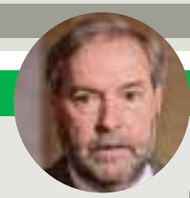

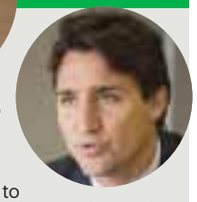

The more debates the merrier?

So you're used to setting your PVR for just one evening's worth of politicians throwing shade at each other — either the English or French "consortium" debate, produced jointly by Canada's major networks (CBC, CTV, Global). This year, you'll need to do more planning. There are four confirmed alternative debates, the first of which, presented by Rogers and Maclean's magazine, goes tonight. Is this about widening the dialogue or subdividing the electorate? Read on.

1. HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

The Tories said they wouldn't participate in the traditional debates. Their only explanation was to suggest they were embracing "diversity and innovation." But some contend the party is trying to strategically parse and target blocks of voters. It's also worth pointing out that the Tories feuded with the big broadcasters last year over political ads and that their relationship with the CBC, whose funding they've gutted, is fraught to say the least.

2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

• NDP Leader Tom Mulcair has said he won't debate without the big honcho himself.

• Justin Trudeau has so far confirmed only that he'll attend tonight's Maclean's/Rogers debate and another, presented by the Globe and Mail and Google, next month.

• The alternative debates were subject to Tory approval, so the terms are bound to be favourable to Harper. Consider: One of the debates is devoted to the economy, another to foreign policy — subjects the leader is comfortable with.

• The main thing the consortium could offer was eyeballs: Over 10 million viewers tuned into the English debate in 2011. And the partners had planned to pump up the numbers this time through an array of social-media partnerships, meant to yield "unprecedented digital reach." But Harper's opt-out and Mulcair's hard line threaten to render the whole exercise moot.

The election explainer is dedicated to keeping urban Canadians informed ahead of the Oct. 19 vote. Look for it in this space throughout the campaign. Let us know what needs explaining: readers@metronews.ca

URBAN ETIQUETTE: ELLEN VANSTONE ON BELATED SYMPATHY

THE QUESTION

I just found out that my friend's mother died a few weeks ago but he never said anything. Should I send a card? Or is it more tactful to say nothing?

Dear Ellen,

I just found out that my friend's mother died a few weeks ago, but he never said anything so I don't know whether to mention it or not. Should I say something, or send a card? Except now it seems too late, and anyways I don't know his postal code. So maybe I could send an email, but maybe that's too casual? Or is it more tactful to say nothing and respect his privacy?

Trying to be sympathetic

Dear Trying,

Sometimes people think it's "tactful to say nothing" when what they really mean is "it's way easier for me to ignore this difficult subject by pretending to be tactful."

I don't include you in this category. You seem genuinely ready to do whatever the right thing is. But I have made the mistake of "pretending to be tactful," and I still regret it. A friendly acquaintance at college lost her fiancé just weeks before the wedding, and a bunch of us in her extended circle ignored the entire event, thinking (or pretending) we didn't want to remind her of the painful loss. As if she needed reminding!

Some time later, when my father died, I received a belated sympathy card from a friendly acquaintance in my own extended circle, and I can't tell you how much it meant to me. I felt so touched. That card, even though it came from someone who never knew my father, made me feel as if someone else was honouring him and his life by acknowledging the loss of him.

So many of us in this culture are afraid to talk about death, but when people ignore it, there's a kind of message to the bereaved person that the loss is somehow an embarrassing subject. Which, obviously, is bound to make that person feel worse.

So, the answer is: Always send a card, no matter how many weeks have gone by. It's not only the "right thing to do" as a matter of etiquette. What makes it "right" is that it's a kind and considerate act. It's about setting aside your own discomfort and convenience, and sending a message that will tell your friend you're thinking of him with love and sympathy. It's these small acts — the ones that are easiest to ignore or forget — that help to connect people, and make the world a better place.

As for not knowing your friend's postal code, I could ask if you've ever heard of the Internet. But I'll rein in my scoldy tone and tell you that email is just fine — especially if you're too young to have a drawerful of stamps handy.

Need advice? Email Ellen
scene@metronews.ca

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Is equality in 'thermal comfort' really our greatest concern?

Get a sweater.

No, really.

Leave your office building, walk to the nearest Joe Fresh, drop $10 on a crew neck, come back to work, and stop whining.

The most boring story of the summer (the season of boring stories) arrived this week wrapped in a handy coating of sexism, and took off.

You couldn't pass newsstands or hang on Twitter without bombardment by a shocking truth: office air conditioning is designed for ... men!

Researchers found thermostats are set to please the average 40-year-old man in the 1960s, while women, who like it hotter, are left to shiver.

The Internet ate it up. Editors put it on the front page. People (probably none more than women in offices) nattered.

But if I have to glance at one more outrage-feigning headline, I will curse every complainer to a life in a deep freeze, right between the hanging pig and leg of lamb.

Some people thought we made too much of poor Cecil the lion. But that was about one man's erectile dysfunction, if you believe Jimmy Kimmel, and most definitely about life and death — of a species, no less, and arguably an ecosystem.

Over here in office land, the stakes are piddly.

Offices should "reduce gender-discriminating bias in thermal comfort predictions," declared the researchers. "Equal thermal comfort for all!" doesn't quite have the ring of "Save the lions!" but such is office life.

Or such is the state of feminism.

Instead of crying foul over Fahrenheit, we might have paused to debate a new study that found 95 per cent of women do not regret getting an abortion, after surveying 670 women from a variety of social backgrounds over three years. There's also the small matter of our early start in sexism, as evidenced by new research showing girls are more likely to trust their student council if it's run by boys.

I don't really care if you're cold. It's not a wider problem if you can fix it all by yourself for the price of a quinoa lunch box (and if you can't afford that, the issue we should be talking about is income inequality and pay equity). Surely there's room for an extra layer in that giant purse you lug to work every day.

We're not supposed to silence each other, I know. We women shouldn't ask each other to change.

But please, do get changed — into a parka if you must — and find something better to get you hot and bothered.

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Your essential daily news

This Weeknd: Lana Del Ray to make an appearance on R&B singer's new album

LUIS ROBAYO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Loving lions

The killing of Cecil the lion continues to generate fury, but it can also be a teaching moment. These lion-themed kids books might help. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRIENDSHIP

The Lion & The Bird

A sweet look at friendship formed when a lion finds an injured bird in his garden one autumn day. The bird is left behind by his flock and the lion nurses the bird back to health, only to have him rejoin his flock the following year. Enchanted Lion Books.

RECIPROCITY

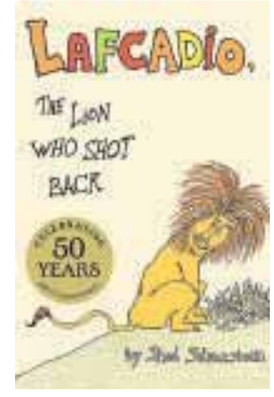
The Lion & The Mouse

The Serengeti comes alive in Jerry Pinkney's nearly wordless retelling of the beloved Aesop fable. The lion spares the mouse from becoming a meal. The mouse returns the deed by freeing the lion from a poacher's trap. Closeups of the players are juxtaposed with vast landscapes. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.

CONSERVATION

Counting Lions

Charcoal drawings of 10 endangered animals in an oversize format, with a majestic lion as the cover boy. In addition to simple counting on a level worthy of very young children, text covers the qualities and behaviour of each animal, including elephants, giraffes, pandas, turtles and macaws. Creators Katie Cotton and Stephen Walton urge children to care about protection and preservation. October release, Candlewick.



BECOMING WHAT WE HATE

Lafcadio, The Lion Who Shot Back

In Shel Silverstein's first children's book, a lion eats a hunter, taking his gun and becoming a crack shot himself. A circus man names him Lafcadio the Great and brings him to New York, where the lion grows more humanlike, dressing in starched collars and fancy suits. He grows despondent and returns to the jungle to ponder whether he's more man or beast. Anniversary edition, HarperCollins.

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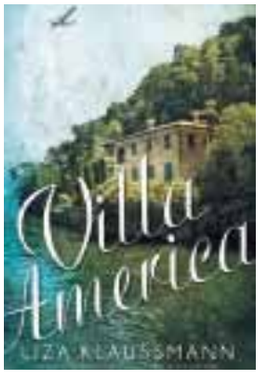

Villa America is a book set by the beach, not a "beach book." ISTOCK

Don't call it a beach book

VILLA AMERICA

This is not one of those turn-off-your-brain summer reads

Melissa Dunne
For Metro | Life

So how does Liza Klaussmann *really* feel about her new book Villa America recently being called "this summer's classiest beach read" by one of Britain's classiest newspapers?

"Yeah, sure why not? The word classy is in there — that's always a good thing," Klaussmann tells me over the phone while on vacation at Martha's Vineyard, literally surrounded by beaches.

"I've always found the terminology a bit odd. ... You can read anything on the beach."

The author is diplomatic about the categorization. When a book set in the French Riviera comes out during the dog days of summer it's perhaps inevitable, she points out, that there will be talk of stuffing it in your beach bag and getting sunscreen smudges on it and sand granules in it while flipping through the pages by the water.

But, one does understand why some authors (and readers) may cringe when the term beach read is mentioned.

After all, even today.com back in 2005 was dissing the category in a roundup of the sub-genre: "The beach book is easily digestible, designed to be guzzled down from a cramped airline seat or reclining poolside chair. ... They're not the novels you proudly display on your shelves so that guests may marvel at your intellectual prowess, but frankly, it's too hot out for Tolstoy."

Oh, and beach books also tend to be chick-lit — you know, those books with the neon-pink covers. Before the listicle of 'beach books' is listed this exhortation adds insult to injury: "Let the mental vacation begin!" Barf.

If you're looking for a mental vacation this summer, Villa America is not the 'beach book' for you. While her second novel, like her first, does take place near the beach, I'd certainly say it's more classy than trashy.

But enough about the sometimes nauseating way books are labelled and categorized.

Klaussmann burst onto the literary scene with Tigers in Red Weather, her award-winning debut set on Martha's Vineyard (where Klaussmann usually spends her summers) which became an international bestseller.

Her sophomore effort takes readers to another gorgeous beach locale — this time the French Riviera — and the characters are modelled after the real-life muses of F. Scott Fitzgerald's Tender is The Night.

The initial idea for Villa America came many moons ago when she was working on her master's thesis on the Fitzgerald classic. Gerald and Sara Murphy, the couple that inspired Fitzgerald's book, also inspired Klaussmann.

"I kind of fell in love with them," says the author.

The resulting work is something many readers are sure to fall in love with, too.

INHERITANCE

A whale of a tale

Liza Klaussmann is not a complainer. After all, things are going very well for her right now. Her first novel won her awards and accolades and her second novel Villa America has just been published. But, she does have a whale-sized reason to complain.

Herman Melville happens to be her great-great-great grandfather and people happen to ask her about the writer of the classic novel Moby Dick ALL the time.

Instead of complaining about being asked about, and compared to, someone she never met, she's decided to deal with her famous relative "head on."

She is already at work on her third novel and it will reference her long-gone family member.

I've always found the terminology a bit odd ... You can read anything on the beach.
Liza Klaussmann

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GOSSIP NOTES

Perrie's Zayn zen

In the wake of Zayn "I love to leave things" Malik's split from fiancée Perrie Edwards coming to light earlier this week, the Little Mix singer was said to be "devastated," but according to Edwards herself everything is great, just great. "I'm good, thank you," she said when pressed in an interview for an update. So there you have it. "Her friends are rallying around her," a source previously told E! News.

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

No 007 for Idris

Maxim's feature on Elba is a double-edge sword of eye candy and confirmation that the actor won't be ordering a martini "shaken, not stirred" anytime soon. "It's just not happening," Maxim writes. "Fans have not been shy about their desire to see the producers slide the Aston Martin keys across the bar to Elba. But in the actor's estimation, this very attention has all but killed his chances to land the role."

MATT LEE/METRO IN NEW YORK

FROM HGTV TO THE WHITE HOUSE

Hillz spills TV faves

As she's doing her run for president, Hillary Clinton has to field a lot questions. In a recent chat with South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Jamie Harrison, the former first lady and secretary of state opens up about her favourite TV shows, and the answers are, um, telling. Clinton revealed she's a huge fan of Tea Leoni's Madam Secretary — so she's the one — about a female secretary of state. Maybe she likes shows she can relate to? Because she's also a huge fan of The Good Wife, which started out about a high-powered woman overcoming her politician husband's sex scandal. This is very, very awkward.

But don't worry, Clinton has found the secret to relatability, and it is HGTV.

"I love watching people redecorating their houses, buying houses," she says.

"There's a program called Love It or List It. I like to watch Beachfront Bargain (Hunt) and I'm interested in this young couple that flip houses (Flip or Flop), whether they're going to make their money or not."

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

WILL AND JADA

Smiths call it quits

While Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith laugh off those pesky divorce rumors that keep cropping up, they're reportedly dealing with a completely different breakup in their lives, and it's with the Church of Scientology. Tax records obtained by Radar Online show that the Smith's Will Smith Foundation was issued a $1.2-million refund in 2013 for cash that had been donated to a suspiciously Scientologist-friendly school. A former Church leader insists the refund comes because the Smiths are no longer members of the controversial religious organization. If that's the case, the Smiths are the rare exception of people who've actually gotten Scientology to give them money. Impressive.

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

From the left: Viola Davis, Kerry Washington, Shonda Rhimes and Ellen Pompeo at the 2015 Summer TCA Tour. GETTY IMAGES

Shonda queen of the non-answer answer

TV CRITICS PRESS TOUR

Talk of legacies not producer's fave topic

Lisa Weidenfeld
For Metro

Shonda Rhimes may have made her name with her writing, but for a pro wordsmith, she's awfully short on them when a room full of journalists tries to get her to answer certain types of questions. Like, for instance, what's going to happen next on any of her Shondaland shows.

"We don't comment on future storylines," Rhimes told the room Tuesday at the Television Critics Association press tour.

But how does Rhimes feel about the whole TGIT branding thing ABC went with for the night of all her shows? Was she feeling any pressure in that situation? "You know what's great is that I absolutely don't worry about things that I have no control over," Rhimes said. "My job at ABC is to make shows and tell stories, so that is what I spend my time doing."

Rhimes reserved her strongest non-answers for questions regarding her legacy as a person who's gotten more people of colour on TV than possibly any other producer. "I certainly don't spend any time thinking about legacy, because we're still doing this," she said. When pressed about the concept that she might have something to do with the fact that it seems pretty likely that a woman of colour will win a best actress award at the Emmys for the first time (both Viola Davis and Taraji P. Henson are nominated), she said, "It is a lovely thing that you are saying, but I'm not going to answer that."

Earlier, ABC president Paul Lee had implied that he thought Grey's Anatomy could go on for many more seasons. And what does Rhimes have to say about that? "I agree with everything that Paul Lee says."

Glad we could clear all that up.

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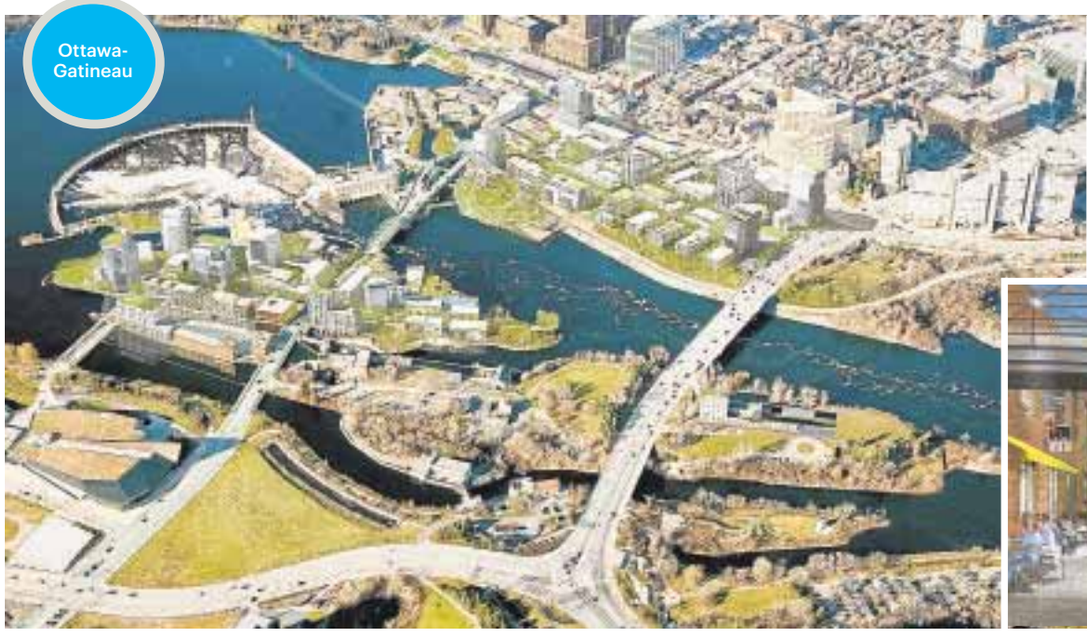
metro HOME

Your essential daily news

West Elm has plucked from a pool of works by indie designers for its new line of framed wall prints



Above: Capital View Park provides a green core to its neighbourhood, framed by views of Parliament Hill. The park starts at Laval Street with a small urban square, including a children's play area and community agricultural plots.

At left: East Eddy Plaza is connected to surrounding streets by heritage laneways and linear park extensions enriched by surface storm water management.

The Zibi redevelopment project sits in the middle of the Ottawa river, connected to both the city of Ottawa and the city of Gatineau. COURTESY WINDMILL DEVELOPMENTS

Builders seeing the big picture

DEVELOPMENTS

Master-planned communities now common to many cities across Canada

CONDO TRENDS

Duncan McAllister

General George S. Patton once said that a good plan today is better than a perfect plan tomorrow. We all know that planning is an essential aspect of real estate and urban development. It would seem that we're living in the era of the master-planned community. We hear the term a lot, but what does it mean exactly?

BusinessDictionary.com describes it as a type of residential plan, the scope of which is very large, and includes a number of amenities such as parks, golf courses, bike paths and jogging trails.

Closer to the city, it's a large community, built in phases by one or more builders, which encompasses elements of live, work and play. That may include condos, townhomes, office buildings, shopping centres and parks. The building form is now common to most Canadian cities.

On the West Coast, there's a new master-planned community just outside of Vancouver in the Fremont neighbourhood of Port Coquitlam. The Fremont Riverfront District by developer Mosaic Homes comprises condos, townhomes and commercial units in a true live-work-play community. The modern, pedestrian-oriented neighbourhood has more than 650 row home and apartment residences, with the Fremont Riverclub at its centre.

Another example of a master-planned community that goes beyond the realm of imagination, Zibi straddles the banks of the Ottawa River, located in both the City of Ottawa and the City of Gatineau. This multi-phase project, from Windmill Development Group and Dream Unlimited Corp., will transform a derelict section of land into a blend of condominium towers and townhomes, commercial space and unique waterfront plazas.

In the town of Markham, just north of Toronto, the Remington Group has also embarked on an ambitious project that will include a mix of retail, residential and commercial properties.

> **"The thinking was that subdivisions are a 20th-century phenomenon and the world is going to more mixed-use communities.**
> Sheldon Levitt, of Quadrangle Architects

The $3-billion Downtown Markham project will represent the largest planned, mixed-use development in Canada. The site is home to the Signature Condominium Collection, an exclusive condo-hotel designed by Quadrangle Architects with interiors by II BY IV Design.

Sheldon Levitt, principal with Quadrangle Architects, says that back in the '90s, their client Remington, having acquired the 250-acre property, wanted to build something different than just another bedroom community.

"It was a time when there was a lot of talk about New Urbanism," he said.

"The thinking was that subdivisions are a 20th-century phenomenon and the world is going to more mixed-use communities with a focus on being both pedestrian and transit-oriented and bringing the car under some form of control."

Part of a pedestrian-oriented live-work-play community, the Fremont Green condos in Port Coquitlam feature one- and two-bedroom, move-in-ready suites on the waterfront, starting from $189,900. COURTESY MOSAIC HOMES

Left: The Signature Condominium Collection in Downtown Markham features hotel-style living — floors one to seven comprise the Marriott Hotel with 209 rooms and condo suites are on floors eight to 16. Right: Downtown Markham will include retail, residential and commercial properties in a community that includes LEED standard buildings. COURTESY THE REMINGTON GROUP

Summer gadgets for the home chef

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes

Most of us confess to having a winter and summer wardrobe, but many would deny having culinary gadgets specifically for the summer kitchen. Here's my roundup of some sizzling summer faves.

1 Primula 50 oz. Cold Brew Iced Coffee Maker
Keep your caffeine cool during the summer months. $30, BedBathAndBeyond.ca

2 OXO Corn Stripper With Holder
Strip and store the summer harvest with ease. $18, CrateAndBarrel

3 Cool & Serve Square Tray
Serve and keep foods cold for up to six hours. $46.50, PamperedChef.com

4 Lello 4080 Musso Lussino 1.5-Quart Ice Cream Maker
Quite possibly the best ice cream, sorbet and gelato maker in the world. All stainless material. $780, Amazon.ca

5 Hamilton Beach Ice Shaver
Stylishly serve cold shrimp over ice or make summer-fun slushies. $50, HamiltonBeach.ca

6 Insulated Laurence Tartan Lunch Bag
Keep your travel delights cool while carrying them in style. $20, StokesStores.com

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Game of Thrones creator, and New York Jets fan, George R.R. Martin watched practice with GM Mike Maccagnan

Shedding the blues

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

Drew Willy has been the starting quarterback for just over a year with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, but in that short time he has injected genuine hope into a long-suffering fan base.

Last week at IGF, Willy returned from a scary knee injury suffered versus Edmonton only five days earlier and heroically led the Bombers to a potentially season-saving win over the B.C. Lions. He did it not only with his arm but also his legs, running for some crucial first downs and a career high 72 yards on five carries.

Lauded by his teammates as a "warrior" and a "baller" after the game, it's obvious the Bombers will go as far as Willy can take them. But coming off of back-to-back losses in Alberta, the Bomber defence stepped up and made a statement to the faithful as well.

Drew Willy is proving a clutch performer for the Blue Bombers this season. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

After getting shredded on a nine-minute opening touchdown drive by Travis Lulay, the defence tightened up, forcing three interceptions and allowed only six points over the final 50 minutes of the game. The 13 points against was the lowest total for a Bomber team since 2013. While still very much a work in progress, the Bomber defence showed it is going in the right direction under Richie Hall and was a huge part of an important win.

As much as any Bombers success this year begins with Willy, one player can't do it all — the Bomber win last week was a complete team victory. They will need more of the same on Sunday when they try to avenge their loss earlier in the season to the Hamilton Tiger-Cats and attempt to be the first visiting team to win at Tim Hortons Field.

Meanwhile on the diamond, it seems like there are a whole lot more excited Toronto Blue Jays fans around these days. And like Bomber faithful, Jays fans have been waiting for a very long time to contend for a championship.

After the most aggressive week in team history on the trade front, Alex Anthopolous has transformed his team from a mismatched collection of underachievers into one of the scariest teams in the American League.

Post trade deadline, the new-look Jays now look every bit the playoff contender. The much maligned pitching staff has been far better since the All-Star break, and they now have a legit ace in David Price.

Price is exactly the type of stud arm that can anchor a staff and start a winner-take-all wild-card playoff game. LaTroy Hawkins and Mark Lowe add depth to the bullpen. Troy Tulowitzki and Ben Revere improve an already potent lineup and help team defence.

A few weeks ago the Toronto Blue Jays were a flawed .500 baseball team with little hope for the post-season. But suddenly the future is now — anything but a nice playoff run will be a big disappointment.

CFL TOP PERFORMERS

Winnipeg quarterback Drew Willy, Edmonton defensive back Patrick Watkins and Calgary slotback Marquay McDaniel have been named the CFL's top performers for Week 6.

Willy completed 17-of-25 passes for 269 yards and two TDs in the Blue Bombers' 23-13 victory over the B.C. Lions on Thursday. He also rushed for a career-high 72 yards on five carries, including a 30-yard run in the second quarter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Tiger-Cats set to host Bombers short-handed

The Tiger-Cats will be without running back C.J. Gable, pictured, and slotback Andy Fantuz when they host the Blue Bombers this weekend. MARK TAYLOR/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats won't have running back C.J. Gable and Canadian slotback Andy Fantuz when they face the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on Sunday night.

The Ticats placed Gable and Fantuz on the six-game injured list Wednesday after both suffered elbow injuries in the club's 34-18 home win over the Toronto Argonauts on Monday night. Hamilton head coach/GM Kent Austin doesn't expect either Gable or Fantuz to miss the remainder of the season but said Gable will likely need longer to return to the lineup than Fantuz.

"I've got to be careful what I say but right now it doesn't look like it's going to be season-ending," Austin told reporters. "One's probably going to be longer than the other but they'll both be able to come back, I think, this year."

Hamilton will face Winnipeg sporting an 8-0 record at Tim Hortons Field since calling the facility home midway through last season.

Gable was limited to just seven games last season due to shoulder and ankle injuries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LOST TARGET

Fantuz, 31, has been a favourite target this season for Ticats quarterback Zach Collaros. The six-foot-four, 220-pound native of Chatham, Ont., in his fourth season with Hamilton, has 30 catches for 311 yards.

IN BRIEF

Jays' Sanchez drops appeal

Blue Jays reliever Aaron Sanchez has dropped his appeal of a three-game suspension.

The right-hander was suspended and fined yesterday for his role in a bench-clearing altercation with the Kansas City Royals, but his appeal allowed him to pitch last night.

Sanchez was punished for intentionally throwing a pitch at Alcides Escobar with warnings in place during the top of the eighth inning of Toronto's 5-2 win Sunday.

Sanchez denied intentionally hitting Escobar, arguing his pitch just got away. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Another grand gesture from Orioles' Davis

Chris Davis hit his second grand slam in 12 days with one out in the top of the 10th inning and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Oakland Athletics 7-3 on Wednesday.

Davis hit 28th home run and third in four games on a 3-2 pitch from Arnold Leon (0-1). It came two batters after Gerardo Parra was intentionally walked to load the bases. Caleb Joseph and Manny Machado led off the inning with back-to-back singles.

It's the sixth grand slam of Davis' career. He also hit one against Tampa Bay on July 25. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quebec and Las Vegas progress in their bids to launch NHL franchises

The bids for NHL teams in Quebec City and Las Vegas are progressing to the next stage of the expansion process.

Quebecor Media vice-president of public affairs Martin Tremblay confirmed in a telephone interview Wednesday that the group overseeing the Quebec City bid has received an invitation from the league to participate in the second phase of the process.

Tremblay refused to give any other details.

Bill Foley, who leads the Las Vegas bid, confirmed in a statement that his group has also been invited to participate in Phase 2. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Summer Taco Salad Wraps with Aged Cheddar

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 12 minutes

Serves 6.

Ingredients
- 1 cup onions
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 8 oz lean ground beef
- 1 cup medium salsa
- 6 small flour tortillas (6")
- 1/3 cup shredded lettuce
- 1 cup diced plum tomato
- ½ cup shredded old light cheddar cheese
- 1 cup black beans, drained and rinsed

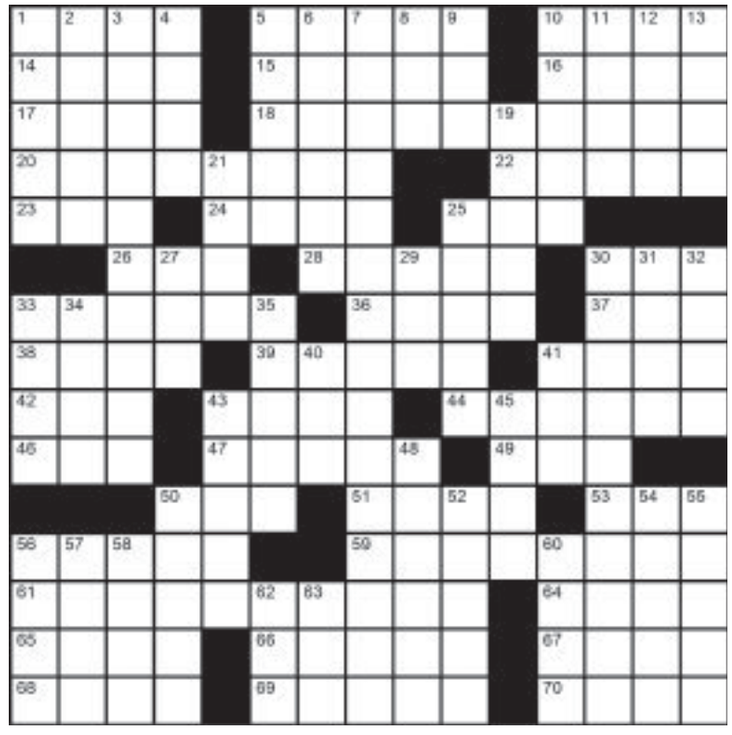
Directions
1. In a large skillet sprayed with oil, add onions and sauté for three minutes until tender. Add garlic, chili powder and Worcestershire and sauté another minute. Add beef and sauté until no longer pink, about three minutes. Add salsa, cover and simmer for five minutes on low heat until most of the salsa has been absorbed.
2. Divide meat mixture over centre of tortillas. Divide lettuce, tomato, cheese and beans over top. Fold in half and serve warm.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 195
- Protein 15 g
- Carbohydrates 25 g
- Fibre 3 g
- Total fat 3.5 g
- Saturated fat 1 g
- Cholesterol 20 mg
- Sodium 690 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Rocket-to-moon org.
5. Parsley portion
10. Montreal baseball player, once
14. Grad
15. The 1890s, sometimes called The __ Decade
16. Brag about
17. Negative reply
18. Gathering/collection
20. One consists of a board, rooks, pawns, etc.: 2 wds.
22. Silk-like fabric
23. Lieutenant Tasha __ (Character on "Star Trek: The Next Generation")
24. Chips __! (Chocolate chip cookie)
25. Wager
26. Cartoonist Mr. Keane
28. Fashion sense
30. Uniquely-spelled mountain basin
33. Immediately!
36. Richly-__ (Fall fashions, often)
37. Pi's follower
38. "My Fair Lady" (1964) star Mr. Harrison's
39. Alpine dry wind
41. Egotistical
42. Poetic tribute
43. In the distance
44. Nickname for Canadian rapper Drake
46. ABBA hit
47. Obscure
49. Stable stuff
50. 'F' in FWIW
51. River of England
53. Mason's load-holder
56. Cold shoulder it
59. Type of tree
61. Canadair CT-133 __ __ (Retired military aircraft)
64. Mr. McCormack
65. Competent
66. Rock gig venue
67. Voyaging on the ocean
68. Fruit cocktail bit
69. __ Lodge (Veronica's dad in Archie Comics)
70. Big name in computers

DOWN
1. HLN's "__ Grace"
2. Hawaiian 'hi'
3. Canada Post door-to-door mail delivery replacements
4. Souls: French
5. Bang up
6. Promenades
7. Hanging-in-a-bag puppet on "The Friendly Giant": 3 wds.
8. 'Impress' suffix
9. Precious stone
10. Plaudit
11. Hospital photo
12. Corn dog
13. British actor Clive
19. "The Rare __" (1966)
21. Table shaker contents
25. Mix
27. __ and outs
29. "I __ Ya Papi" by Jennifer Lopez
30. Neil Young's backing band: 2 wds.
31. __ by (Pass briskly)
32. Tommy James & The Shondells tune, when repeated
33. Advantages
34. Decorate anew
35. Bid
40. Goon
41. Through
43. Dwelling
45. Canadian comedian Caroline
48. Where Georgetown is the capital city
50. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's bill, fun-style
52. "Buzz off!"
54. Bay window
55. Sticker
56. Business person's "Fast!"
57. Feeling
58. Stewing pot
60. Fermented honey drink
62. Encourager's exclamation!
63. __ Lanka

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't waste your time, energy and money on things you don't need and people you don't respect. Resist the urge to get involved in causes and issues that do not concern you directly.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You have made sacrifices in recent weeks and now it is time to do something for yourself. You will feel more positive about your dreams and your place in the world.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
There is no point trying to control every situation you find yourself in — you will wear yourself out if you try. Some things are simply too big for even a Gemini to change.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If you want to get the most out of the next few days you will need to be more sociable. Let others take the lead and they'll take you places you will thoroughly enjoy.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Employers will go out of their way to help you make the most of your talents. First, though, you need to open up and let them know what it is you desire. They're not mind readers.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your opinions may be fixed but that does not mean you are completely inflexible. Some of the ideas you have over the next 24 hours will be so unusual that even those who know you well will be surprised.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You don't have to do anything to make this day special, just be yourself and enjoy the wonderful things that come your way. It's possible you could go on a spree and spend too much money but that's nothing new.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Even a Scorpio needs encouragement. Loved ones will go out of their way to reassure you today. It's nice to know you are appreciated.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may not enjoy what you have to do but you have no choice, so get yourself in gear and get it done. Once it is out of the way you can devote yourself to more pleasurable activities.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Listen to what friends and relatives tell you today. If you follow their advice it will save you time and effort on things of no importance. Why learn from mistakes when you can learn from others?

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your doubts about certain relationships will be laid to rest. Loved ones will reassure you that you are always in their hearts and thoughts, no matter how far apart you may be.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't let pride get in the way of securing your future. You cannot do everything on your own, so put your ego aside and join forces.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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